

# PATENT SPECIFICATION



Convention Date (Switzerland) : Sept. 26, 1927.

297,750

Application Date (in United Kingdom) : Sept. 26, 1928. No. 27,636 / 28.

Complete Accepted : May 30, 1929.

## COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

### Improvements in or relating to Floor Coverings.

I, KARL SCHNEBLE, a Citizen of the Swiss Confederation, of 69, Blümisalpstrasse, Zurich, Switzerland, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and 5 in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

The present invention relates to floor 10 coverings and to methods for the production and application of same to floors.

The main object is to provide sound absorbing floor coverings which rapidly set, are non-conductors of heat, impervious to water and insoluble therein and which 15 resist wear and possesses great tenacity, strength and durability.

According to this invention a mixture 20 of paper fibres, granulated cork, granulated pumice-stone, infusorial earth (kieselguhr) Portland cement and water is formed which mixture is while plastic applied to the floor preferably after the latter has been cleaned. It has been found that by admixing infusorial earth 25 the cork is firmly bound by the Portland cement to form a very hard and good wearing floor covering. To ensure good adhesion the floor when of concrete is first 30 slightly moistened, then dry Portland cement powder or Portland cement mixed with water is sprayed thereon and then a wet mixture of Portland cement with paper fibres and say 40 parts granulated cork, 40 parts granulated pumice-stone and 35 20 parts kieselguhr is applied. The cement binds the mass to the concrete floor. The surface is then made smooth by known means. To assist the drying a further coating of finely divided cork, 40 kieselguhr, pumice-stone, Portland cement, and, if desirable, a colouring material, may be applied. On the mass 45 when dry may be placed a linoleum or similar covering but the floor covering may be used without the last said additional covering.

Cork and pumice-stone are preferably used in about equal quantities; so much 50 infusorial earth is used as adheres to the surface of the cork particles; and Portland cement and water are used to form a paste. The quantities of the constituents

used might vary within wide limits and my invention is not limited to the proportions above set out.

If the new floor covering is applied to a wood floor the latter has to be rendered first impervious to water. Various and well known waterproof coatings, glue etc. are in the trade and any of those might be used to prevent the moisture from penetrating from the plastic floor covering into the wood. After the first coating of said water-proofing is fully dry, a second coating of the same material is applied and while this material is still wet a mixture of paper fibres, granulated cork, pumice-stone, Portland cement, infusorial earth and water is spread on the floor.

For preparing a lasting floor surface on wood without the application of linoleum the mixture is applied in as thin a layer as possible. While this first coating is still wet a coating containing sharp washed sand and a hardening medium of known or convenient kind such as Portland cement (which brings about a rapid binding of the material) may be applied. A third coating containing very finely divided sand, Portland cement and water and preferably including a colouring material may be applied before the second coating has set.

The new floor covering according to my invention sets quickly and is not affected by ordinary temperature changes. It has a smooth hard surface which can be washed and polished.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

1. A floor covering including paper fibres, granulated cork, infusorial earth, granulated pumice-stone, Portland cement and water applied to the floor in a plastic state and allowed to set thereon.

2. A method for the production of a floor covering according to claim 1 consisting in mixing paper fibres, granulated cork, infusorial earth, granulated pumice-stone, Portland cement and water and in applying the mass as a layer to the floor.

55

60

65

70

75

80

85

90

95

100

105

3. A method for the production of a floor covering consisting in mixing paper fibres, granulated cork, infusorial earth, granulated pumice-stone, Portland cement and water and in applying the mass as a layer to the floor, and in placing a second layer of powdered cork, pumice-stone, infusorial earth, Portland cement and water on the first said layer, with or without the addition of colouring matter thereto.
4. As applied to concrete floors, a floor covering containing paper fibres, granu-
- lated cork, infusorial earth, granulated pumice-stone, Portland cement and water, 15 substantially as described.
5. As applied to wood floors, a floor covering containing paper fibres, granulated cork, infusorial earth, granulated pumice-stone, Portland cement and water, 20 substantially as described.

Dated this 26th day of September, 1928.

H.Y. FAIRBROTHER,  
Chartered Patent Agent,  
30 and 32, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C. 4.

Redhill: Printed for His Majesty's Stationery Office, by Love & Malcolmson, Ltd.—1929.